

U.S./RUSSIAN NATIONAL SECURITY ISSUES

Committee on National Security: Subcommittee on Military Research and Development held a hearing on U.S./Russian national security issues. Testimony was heard from Stanislav Lunev, former Colonel, Russian Military Intelligence (GRU).

OVERSIGHT—FIRE SUPPRESSION

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health held an oversight hearing on Fire Suppression. Testimony was heard from Barry Hill, Associate Director, Energy, Resources and Science Issues, GAO; Wally Josephson, Wildland Fire Specialist, Office of Managing Risk and Public Safety, Department of the Interior; Janice McDougal, Associate Deputy Chief, State and Private Forestry, Forest Service, USDA; and James W. Garner, State Forester, Department of Forestry, State of Virginia.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE FLUENCY ACT

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, a modified open rule providing one hour of general debate on H.R. 3892, English Language Fluency Act. The rule provides for a 3 hour time limit on the amendment process, after which no further amendment shall be in order except those printed in the Congressional Record, with each further amendment and all amendments thereto to be debatable for 10 minutes equally divided and controlled by a proponent and an opponent.

The rule makes in order the Committee on Education and the Workforce amendment in the nature of a substitute now printed in the bill as an original bill for amendment purposes, which shall be considered as read. The rule provides for the consideration of the manager's amendment numbered 1 printed in the Congressional Record if offered by Representative Riggs or his designee, which shall be considered as read, shall not be subject to amendment or to a division of the question, and shall be debatable for 10 minutes equally divided between the proponent and an opponent. If adopted, the amendment is considered as part of the base text for further amendment purposes. The rule provides that after the disposition of the amendment numbered 1, it shall be in order to consider the amendment numbered 2 printed in the Congressional Record if offered by Representative Riggs or his designee, which shall be considered as read, and including all amendments thereto, shall be debatable for 30 minutes equally divided between the proponent and an opponent.

The rule authorizes the Chair to accord priority in recognition to Members who have pre-printed their amendments in the Congressional Record. The rule allows for the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole to postpone votes during consideration of the

bill, and to reduce votes to five minutes on a postponed question if the vote follows a fifteen minute vote. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Chairman Goodling and Representatives Riggs and Martinez.

LABOR-HHS-EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Rules: Heard testimony from Representatives Porter, Tiahrt, Istook, Shaw, Smith of New Jersey, Castle, Greenwood, Riggs, Manzullo, LoBiondo, Brady of Texas, English of Pennsylvania, Obey, Lowey, and Nadler, but action was deferred on H.R. 4274, making appropriations for the Department of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999.

OVERSIGHT

Committee on Science: Subcommittee on Technology held an oversight hearing on Developing Partnerships for Assistive and Universally Designed Technologies for Persons with Disabilities. Testimony was heard from John Lancaster, Executive Director, President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities; and public witnesses.

"E-RATE" PROGRAM—FUNDING MECHANISMS

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Oversight held a hearing on the Funding Mechanisms of the "E-Rate" Program. Testimony was heard from Representatives Weller, Tauzin and Blumenauer; and the following officials of the FCC: Harold Furchtgott-Roth, Commissioner; and Christopher J. Wright, General Counsel.

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, 1998**

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings are scheduled.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Subcommittee on Department Operations, Nutrition, and Foreign Agriculture, hearing on H.R. 4366, Food Stamp Verification Act of 1998, 2 p.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Banking and Financial Services, to mark up the following bills; H.R. 4239, Financial Contract Netting Improvement Act of 1998; and H.R. 4321, Financial Information Privacy Act of 1998, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Commerce, to mark up the following bills: H.R. 3844, Wireless Communications and Public Safety

Act of 1998; H.R. 4017, Energy Conservation Reauthorization Act of 1998; and H.R. 4382, Mammography Quality Standards Reauthorization Act of 1998, 10:45 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing on Prison Industry: Effects on Inmates, Law-Abiding Workers, and Business, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on House Oversight, to consider pending business, 3 p.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on International Relations, Subcommittee on International Operations and Human Rights, to continue hearings on Human Rights in China—Day 2, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, hearing on Regional Conflict: Colombia's Insurgency and Prospects for a Peaceful Resolution, 1:30 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, to continue markup of H.R. 3789, Class Action Jurisdiction Act of 1998; and to mark up the following bills: H.R. 218, Community Protection Act of 1997; H.R. 3607, National Youth Crime Prevention Demonstration Act; and H.R. 4264, to establish the Bureau of Enforcement and Border Affairs within the Department of Justice, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Resources, to consider the following measures: H.R. 1282, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain facilities of the Minidoka project to the Burley Irrigation district; H.R. 1467, to provide for the continuance of oil and gas operations pursuant to certain existing leases in the Wayne National Forest; H.R. 1481, Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act of 1997; S. 1693, Vision 2020 National Parks Restoration Act; S. 1695, Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site Preservation Act of 1998; H.R. 1943, Carlsbad Irrigation Project Acquired Transfer Act; H.R. 2108, Dutch John Federal Property Disposition and Assistance Act of 1997; H.R. 2161, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey the Palmetto Bend Project to the State of Texas; H.R. 2756, Kake Tribal Corporation Land Exchange Act; H.R. 3056, to provide for the preservation and sustainability of the family farm through the transfer of responsibility for operation and maintenance of the Flathead Indian Irrigation project; H.R. 3187, to amend the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 to exempt not-for-profit entities that hold rights-of-way on public lands from certain strict liability requirements imposed in connection with such rights-of-way; H.R. 3381, Gallatin

Land Consolidation Act of 1998; H.R. 3687, to authorize prepayment of amounts due under a water reclamation project contract for the Canadian River Project, Texas; H.R. 3706, Clear Creek Distribution System Conveyance Act; H.R. 3715, Pine River Project Conveyance Act; H.R. 3878, to subject certain reserved mineral interests of the operation of the Mineral Leasing Act; H.R. 3972, to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to prohibit the Secretary of the Interior from charging State and local government agencies for certain uses of the sand, gravel, and shell resources of the outer Continental Shelf; H.R. 4023, to provide for the conveyance of the Forest Service property in Kern County, California, in exchange for county lands suitable for inclusion in Sequoia National Forest; H.R. 4048, Sly Park Unit Conveyance Act; H.R. 4166, to amend the Idaho Admission Act regarding the sale or lease of school land; H.R. 4313, to amend the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands to provide that the number of members on the legislature of the Virgin Islands and the number of such members constituting a quorum shall be determined by the laws of the Virgin Islands; and a measure to provide for the conveyance of various reclamation project facilities to local water authorities, 11 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Rules, to consider H.R. 4380, making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999; and to mark up a measure to amend the Rules of the House of Representatives to provide for mandatory drug testing of Members, officers, and employees of the House of Representatives, 11 a.m., H-313 Capitol.

Committee on Science, oversight hearing on the White House Perspective on the International Space Station's Problems and Solutions, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Surface Transportation, hearing on Motor Carrier Economic Regulatory Issues, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, hearing on the garnishment of benefits paid to veterans for child support and other court-ordered family obligations, 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, executive, hearing on Iraq, 2 p.m., H-405 Capitol.